


Newsletter: The Center for Professional Ethics, Fall 1988

Case Western Reserve University

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarlycommons.law.case.edu/professional_ethics

 Part of the [Applied Ethics Commons](#), [Bioethics and Medical Ethics Commons](#), [Business Law, Public Responsibility, and Ethics Commons](#), and the [Ethics and Political Philosophy Commons](#)

Scholarly Commons Citation

Case Western Reserve University, "Newsletter: The Center for Professional Ethics, Fall 1988."
https://scholarlycommons.law.case.edu/professional_ethics/8

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Law School Publications at Case Western Reserve University School of Law Scholarly Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Center for Professional Ethics by an authorized administrator of Case Western Reserve University School of Law Scholarly Commons.

FALL 1988

EDITORS: KIM DIEMERT
WENDY ROSETT

THE CO-DIRECTOR'S CORNER

by Bob Lawry

During the Spring of 1988, we at the Center were shaken by an alarming number of public incidents of naked prejudice reported on the CWRU campus. Here, a group beat up Arabs because they were Arabs; there, some whites hurled racial epithets at blacks because they were black. Everywhere a sexist remark, an anti-religion dig, a slur against someone's homeland or life style or the fact that he or she transported themselves — even with grace — by wheelchair. The media told us these incidents were not unique to our campus nor to our town. It was a nationwide epidemic: intolerance was on the rise.

The causes of this vast public eruption of intolerance are, no doubt, complex and deeply rooted in many aspects of our history and culture. What to do about it is also a quite complicated business. We are at least not in doubt about where to begin. With ourselves. In dialogue with others. So the Center has decided to offer a series of related Monday Night Dialogues for the Fall of 1988. The series is called "The Emergence of Intolerance in the 80's." Elsewhere in this newsletter is a list of the specific topics and dialogue leaders who will help us to explore this issue in at least some of its forms. As usual we think that we have put together a fine group of speakers. We hope all of you can attend at least some of the forums and we hope some can attend all of them. We believe the dialogue will grow richer as we proceed, as our singular voices and experiences blend together in a common search for clarity and understanding. We cannot deal with every kind of intolerance issue in five sessions. Nevertheless, we hope to explore the nature of intolerance and focus some attention on prejudice against individuals and groups because of race, religion, age, and class. We wish we could examine other kinds of cases as well, marking similarities and differences but time constraints alone forbid this. Still, it is unusual for the Center to devote so much of its limited resources to one topic. This one is so

foundational and so pervasive, however, we decided we had to marshal what forces we had to make it a central focus of thought and discussion in 1988-89.

Although our Spring program is still in gestation, we have decided to focus attention on another aspect of the prejudice/intolerance issue, that insidious form of prejudice called sexism. Since this year marks the 100th anniversary of the birth of Flora Stone Mather College, which is now part of the CWRU undergraduate college, we wanted to devote some time and attention to Women's Issues. So we are planning a conference on this vast and tricky subject for the Spring of '89.

More so than the other issues which ought to be addressed in any discussion of prejudice/intolerance, so-called Women's Issues defy categorization. Every label seems somehow wrong or wrongly provocative. We do not want to talk just about "sexism," although that form of discrimination must be discussed if our subject heading makes any sense at all. Neither do we particularly want to talk of "feminism," for that word is unhappily too politically loaded for many folks we want to reach. So the bland "Women's Issues" is it so far because we want to talk about sex discrimination in the workplace and family life from child care, to marriage itself, to inter-generational tensions. We most especially want to talk about Carol Gilligan's much discussed book, *In A Different Voice*. Gilligan poses the question whether there are specific moral concerns — care, relationship, intimacy — that are not sufficiently addressed in contemporary society because those most capable of speaking about them are unable to get their "different voices" heard. Gilligan does not say men do not have these concerns, only that men's historically conditioned concerns — autonomy, justice, rules — have narrowed their moral approach. It is time to listen to some different voices. We at the Center hope to be able to bring some of the liveliest and most thoughtful of those voices to

you next spring.

The origins of prejudice/intolerance may be as simple and as deep as the fear that the other clan will thrash our clan to death unless we keep 'em down, or it may be as complex and deep as the fear of a loss of identity. Rosemary Ruether argues that "the male-female relationship was the likely locus for the entry of prejudice into human history." Of the truth of these or other psychological or social theories, I have no firm convictions. I am convinced, however, that the problem of prejudice/intolerance is endemic to the human condition but that even this problem can be made better — even sometimes considerably better — by infor-

mation, thought, discussion, good will, a change of focus. Habits of the heart can be broken. We at the Center deeply believe that. We also believe that there can be no fixed boundary between professional and personal ethics and that there should not be silent declarations of ignorance between and among one group and another. Sometimes it seems that we cannot speak about professional or personal ethics at all if the climate is so besotted with accumulated cultural and historical mud. So it is back to something very basic this year: How is it that you and I, so different, so much the same, can begin talking at all until we acknowledge and cherish our common humanity?

July first began our new fiscal year. If you would like to help support the Center, just fill out the attached membership form and return it to us at Case Western Reserve University. The address is on the form below.

**Center for Professional Ethics
MEMBERSHIP**

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ School _____

General Membership \$25 _____ Student Membership \$5 _____

Please make checks payable to Case Western Reserve University.

Mail to: Center for Professional Ethics
#234 Yost Hall
Case Western Reserve University
Cleveland, Ohio 44106

THE CENTER FOR PROFESSIONAL ETHICS

FALL 1988 DIALOGUE FORUMS

Monday Evenings at 7:30 P.M.
The 1914 Lounge in Thwing Center

THEME: "THE EMERGENCE OF INTOLERANCE IN THE 80's"

September 19th

"THE RISE OF INTOLERANCE IN OUR SOCIETY"

Dr. Andrew Edwards
Associate Professor of Social Work
Cleveland State University

October 3rd

"THE NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES OF RACIALIST ATTITUDES"

b.f. maiz, Poet-Lecturer

October 17th

"THE ETHICAL ISSUES INVOLVING THE ELDERLY"

Ms. Sally Reisacher
Director of Services to Adult Care Homes
Lutheran Metropolitan Ministries in Cleveland

October 31st

"THE SANCTIFICATION OF VIOLENCE"

(Religious intolerance in the world today.)
Fr. Edward Kordas, Jr., The Hallinan Center, CWRU

November 14th

"THE MARKETING OF ETHICAL VALUES IN THE CULTURE"

(The advent of class consciousness in America)
Speaker to be announced.

THE POWER OF THE PROFESSIONAL PERSON

The Power of the Professional Person is a collection of presentations previously given at C.P.E. conferences. It is an interesting and informative group of essays on the ethical stance taken by practioners in various professions. Each of the essays represents one of the schools of study offered at Case Western Reserve University.

The Power of the Professional Person is available at the University Bookstore. If you prefer, an order form has been provided for your convenience.

ORDER FORM

Phone orders: 1-800-362-8600, ext. 2650 (in Ohio)
Master Card or VISA; All orders shipped UPS

Qty.	Item	Price	
		Each	Total
	THE POWER OF THE PROFESSIONAL PERSON	12.50	
Subtotal			
*10% Discount			
**7% Tax			
Shipping		1.50	
Total Due			

* All CWRU students, faculty, staff and alumni receive a 10% discount
** 7% Tax (Ohio Residents)

Name _____

Address _____

City, State _____ Zip _____

Phone (H) _____ (W) _____

Master Card # _____

VISA # _____

Exp. Date _____

Check or Money Order enclosed - payable to University Bookstore

MAIL TO: University Bookstore, Case Western Reserve University,
Thving Center, 11111 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, OH 44106

NEW FACULTY JOINS THE CENTER FOR BIOMEDICAL ETHICS

Congratulations to our sister institution, the Center for Biomedical Ethics, lodged in the Medical School. Its Director, **Tom Murray, Ph.D.**, has announced the appointment of three new faculty members at the Center, **Rebecca Dresser, J.D.**, **Stephen Post, Ph.D.**, and **Jeffrey Botkin, M.D.** These three join the already distinguished faculty consisting of our long-time friend and supporter, **Mary Mahowald, Ph.D.**, and **Stewart Youngner, M.D.** This biomedical ethics faculty is on its way to becoming one of the very best in the country. We applaud the Medical School for its vigor in pursuing excellence in medical ethics and look forward to increased collaborations between the CPE and the CBE.

234 Yost Hall — Case Western Reserve University — (216) 368-5349

The Center for Professional Ethics at Case Western Reserve University

NEWS & NOTES

The Center has moved! We are still located in Yost Hall, but we have a new location, room 234. Our phone number remains the same -- (216) 368-5349....There are several interesting seminars in medicine on the CWRU campus this Fall:

MEDICAL ETHICS
28 September
5 & 12 October

**Teaching Medical
Ethics in the Primary
Care Setting: A
Workshop for Faculty**

Conducted on the CWRU campus. For further information, contact the Office of Continuing Medical Education, (216) 368-3884.

HEALTH CARE
29 & 30 September

**High Technology
Health Care in the
Home**

Conducted at the Hollenden House Hotel. For further information, contact Margaret Conti at (216) 368-6196.

REHABILITATION
13 & 14 October

**Elderly
Rehabilitation as Art
and Science**

Conducted at the Bond Court Hotel. For further information, contact Diane Ferris at (216) 368-2692.